AMENDED CLAIM SET:

1. (withdrawn) An agent for fixing (a) substance(s), comprising a water-soluble polymer used for fixing a desired substance on a substrate, which water-soluble polymer has at least two photoreactive groups in one molecule, said molecule of said water-soluble polymer being electrically neutral as a whole.

2. – 11. (cancelled).

12. (cancelled).

13. & 14. (cancelled).

15. (withdrawn) A substrate on which said substance(s) was(were) fixed by the method according to claim 12.

16. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 1, wherein said water-soluble polymer is a nonionic water-soluble macromolecule having at least 2 photoreactive groups in one molecule.

17. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 16, wherein said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule is a polyalkylene glycol, polyvinyl macromolecule or a naturally occurring macromolecule.

18. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 17, wherein said polyalkylene glycol is polyethylene glycol, said polyvinyl macromolecule is poly((meth)acrylamide-photoreactive(meth)acrylamide) copolymer or poly(glycidyl(meth)acrylate-photoreactive(meth)acrylamide) copolymer.

19. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 18, wherein said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule is polyethylene glycol, poly(acrylamide-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymer or poly(glycidyl methacrylate-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymer.

20. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 16, wherein said photoreactive group is phenyl azide group.

21. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 16, wherein said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule has a molecular weight of 500 to 5,000,000.

22. (withdrawn) The agent for fixing (a) substance(s) according to claim 16, wherein said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate is(are) selected from the group consisting of polypeptides, polysaccharides, nucleic aids, lipids, cells and constituents of the cells.

23. (currently amended) A method for fixing (a) substance(s) on a substrate, comprising

coating said substrate with an aqueous solution or an aqueous suspension containing said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate and an agent for fixing (a) substance(s) comprising a water-soluble polymer used for fixing a desired substance on a substrate, which water-soluble polymer is a nonionic water-soluble macromolecule having at least 2 photoreactive groups in one molecule, said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule being ~~selected from the group consisting of polyalkylene glycols, naturally occurring macromolecules, and polyvinyl macromolecules, wherein said polyvinyl macromolecules are~~ poly(ethylene glycol mono(meth)acrylate-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymers, said molecule of said water-soluble polymer being electrically neutral as a whole,

and irradiating said solution or suspension with light.

24. (original) The method according to claim 23, wherein said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate is(are) selected from the group consisting of polypeptides, polysaccharides, nucleic aids, lipids and cells and constituents of the cells.

25. (withdrawn) A substrate on which said substance(s) was(were) fixed by the method according to claim 16.

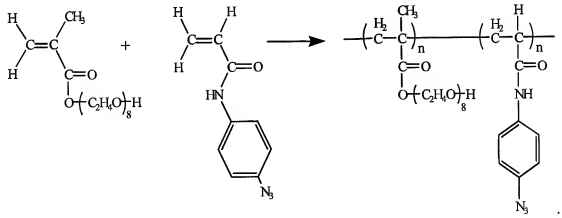
26. (currently amended) A process of producing a substrate on which desired substance(s) are fixed, which method comprises:

coating said substrate with an aqueous solution or an aqueous suspension containing said substance(s) to be fixed on said substrate and an agent for fixing (a) substance(s) comprising a water-soluble polymer used for fixing a desired substance on a substrate, which water-soluble polymer has at least two photoreactive groups in one molecule, said nonionic water-soluble macromolecule being ~~selected from the group consisting of polyalkylene glycols, naturally occurring macromolecules, and polyvinyl macromolecules, wherein said polyvinyl macromolecules are~~ poly(ethylene glycol mono(meth)acrylate-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymers, said molecule of said water-soluble polymer being electrically neutral as a whole,

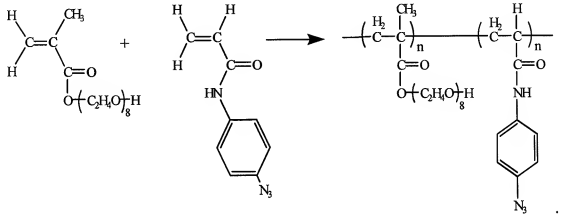
and irradiating said solution or suspension with light.

27. – 35. (cancelled).

36. (previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein said poly(ethylene glycol mono(meth)acrylate-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymer has the formula



37. (previously presented) The process according to claim 26, wherein said poly(ethylene glycol mono(meth)acrylate-photoreactive acrylamide) copolymer has the formula



.